

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 905

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to commend William Lucy for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee and the National Civil Rights Museum's Community Oversight Committee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to advancing the cause of civil rights and improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, William Lucy is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as a consultant with the Board of Directors of the National Civil Rights Museum, William Lucy has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, during the recent negotiations held between the State of Tennessee and the Board of Directors of the National Civil Rights Museum, Mr. Lucy provided valuable input while representing the needs of the Memphis and Shelby County communities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucy proved indispensable in the negotiations that resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding between the State and the National Civil Rights Museum that delineates a number of objectives to enhance and improve the operations, management, and administration of the National Civil Rights Museum and provide for a greater awareness of the purpose, activities, and substantive programs of the Museum, while preserving the truth, integrity, and authenticity of the Civil Rights Movement and promoting and encouraging community involvement; he also offered astute counsel in the matter of the negotiating committee to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the International Secretary-Treasurer of the 1.4 million-member American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO, William Lucy was

first elected AFSCME Secretary-Treasurer in May of 1972 and was re-elected in June of 2004 to another four-year term; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucy is a former President of Local 1675, Contra Costa County Employees Association of Contra Costa County, California, where he was employed for thirteen years; and

WHEREAS, William Lucy joined the AFSCME International staff in 1966 as the Associate Director of the Legislation and Community Affairs departments; before assuming the position of Secretary-Treasurer, he served as Executive Assistant to AFSCME's late president, Jerry Wurf; and

WHEREAS, a member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council and a Vice President of the Maritime Trades Department and Department of Professional Employees, Mr. Lucy is well respected in the labor community and recognized as the consummate labor statesman among his peers; and

WHEREAS, for more than three decades, William Lucy has been involved in international affairs; he is the highest ranking African American in the labor movement; and

WHEREAS, one of the founders of the Free South Africa Movement that launched the successful United States anti-apartheid campaign in the mid-1980s, Mr. Lucy led an AFL-CIO delegation to South Africa to monitor the first democratic election; and

WHEREAS, he also serves as Vice President of Public Services International, the world's largest union federation; on the Boards of Directors for the International Rescue Committee, Americans for Democratic Action, and the Center for Policy Alternatives; and as a founder and the President of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU), an organization of union leaders and rank-and-file members dedicated to the unique needs of African Americans and minority group workers; and

WHEREAS, a civil engineer by trade, William Lucy attended the University of California at Berkeley; currently residing in Washington, D.C., he is a native of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucy's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, William Lucy epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lucy is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his outstanding public service as a consultant to the Board of Directors of the National Civil Rights Museum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend William Lucy for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee while consulting with the Board of Directors of the National Civil Rights Museum and the National Civil Rights Museum's Community Oversight Committee and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.